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Agenda item 69 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Namibia:* draft resolution

Special economic assistance to Côte d'Ivoire

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/212 of 20 December 1988, entitled "Responsibility of States for the Protection of the environment: prevention of the illegal international traffic in, and the dumping and resulting accumulation of, toxic and dangerous products and wastes affecting the developing countries in particular",

Recalling also its resolutions 44/226 of 22 December 1989 and 47/190 of 22 December 1992,

Reaffirming the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7, which stipulates that States shall take all necessary measures to prevent pollution of the seas,[1]

Taking into account the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, especially principle 16, which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution,[2] and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Concerned about the recent illegal and irresponsible transportation and dumping of toxic wastes in and around Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on 19 August 2006, resulting in an unacceptable number of human deaths, more than one hundred and

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

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seven thousand people treated for toxic waste-related problems and an unprecedented environmental disaster in that country,

Aware of the increasing rate of illicit movement and dumping by transnational corporations and other enterprises from industrialized countries of hazardous and other wastes in developing countries that do not have the national capacity to deal with such wastes in an environmentally sound manner,

Bearing in mind, in this regard, the Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[4] and the importance of updating the Code to bring it into line with the related developments since its adoption,

Noting the immediate response of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to this environmental disaster, which is straining its limited resources in the massive clean-up and relief operations and its request for international support,

Aware of the ongoing efforts of the Government and people of Côte d'Ivoire and the international community to restore lasting peace and development in Côte d'Ivoire,

Noting the efforts of the European Community to identify and bring to justice the perpetrators of this shameful crime,

Deeply concerned about the importance of the loss of human life, environmental damage and destruction of biodiversity and the fragile marine ecosystems, as well as the enormous public health costs involved,

1. *Expresses its solidarity*, empathy and support to the Government and people of Côte d'Ivoire;

2. *Requests* Member States, the United Nations bodies concerned and the international financial institutions and development partners to provide additional economic and technical assistance in a timely and sustained manner to the current and post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation efforts in the affected areas of Côte d'Ivoire;

3. *Invites* the international community, the United Nations system and other international organizations to increase their support for the strengthening of the disaster risk management and disaster preparedness capacity of Côte d'Ivoire;

4. *Calls upon* the polluter to take responsibility, in accordance with international law, to adequately compensate those affected in Côte d'Ivoire, based on principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution;

5. *Condemns* all governmental and non-governmental entities that engage in the shameful practice of dumping toxic wastes in territories and waters of developing countries, thus further retarding the pace of their development in general;

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[4] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Thirty-fourth Regular Session, 17-21 September 1990* (GC(XXXIV)/RESOLUTIONS (1990)), resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530.

6. *Reiterates its call upo* all Governments to institute waste management measures or to strengthen existing waste management systems in their territories with the aim of effectively controlling the transfer and movement of all toxic wastes across their jurisdiction;

7. *Reaffirms* the Declaration of the Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7, which stipulates that States shall take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas;[1]

8. *Calls upon* all Member States to take legal, administrative and regulatory steps to ban the dumping of toxic wastes in developing countries and to cooperate fully in the investigation of all reported cases of the dumping of toxic wastes, and to apprehend and bring to justice all perpetrators with the aim of curbing the recurrence of such illegal movement and dumping of toxic wastes;

9. *Invites* all Member States to continue their intensive campaign to enlighten their respective populations about the devastating effects of toxic wastes on human life, the environment and the economy in general;

10. *Calls upon* all Member States that produce dangerous toxic wastes to take all the measures necessary for treating and recycling those wastes in their own countries;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular in relation to paragraphs 2 to 5, as well as the progress made in the clean-up and relief efforts in the affected areas, in par.icular in Côte d'Ivoire.